

## Message Text

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10 S  
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /113 W  
----- 085325

R 011515Z MAR 74  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4358  
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1137

E.O. 11652: GDS:12/31/80  
TAGS: MARR, XX, PFOR  
SUBJECT: US FORCES ALERT PROCEDURES

REFS: A. USNATO 6011 EXDIS; B. STATE 249808; C. USNATO 5638 EXDIS  
D. USNATO 6281 EXDIS; E. STATE 22533; F. USNATO 837; G. STATE 36625

1. AT RESTRICTED SESSION OF DPC MINISTERIAL ON DECEMBER 7, 1973  
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER SAID US WAS REVISING ITS ALERT NOTIFICATION  
PROCEDURES SO THAT ALLIES WOULD BE INFORMED MORE  
PROMPTLY IF AN ALERT IS REQUIRED AGAIN. HE ALSO SAID RUMSFELD WOULD  
BRIEF THE COUNCIL ON THOSE REVISIONS (USNATO 6011, PARA 14A).

2. MISSION HAS DRAFTED A STATEMENT (TEXT BELOW BASED UPON  
STATE 249808. HOWEVER, THE PROCEDURES DO NOT REPEAT NOT PROVIDE  
FOR DIRECT NOTIFICATION OF MINISTERS. INSTEAD, THE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE'S MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO AMERICAN  
EMBASSIES IN NATO CAPITALS AND TO THE DEFENSE ATTACHES IN THOSE  
MISSIONS THROUGH THEIR CHANNELS, WITH THE REQUEST THAT IT BE RELAYED  
TO THE MINISTERS AFTER AUTHORIZATION BY THE CHIEF OF MISSION.

3. THE PROCEDURES DESCRIBED IN STATE 249808 WHICH RESULTED FROM  
WASHINGTONS EXPERIENCE FOLLOWING DECLARATION OF DEFCON 3 ON OCTOBER  
25, 1973 STILL GIVE ME CAUSE FOR CONCERN. THE DEPARTMENT HAS STATED  
ITS FEELING THAT "TRADITIONAL AMBASSADORIAL CHANNELS.....ARE EFFECT-  
IVE AND APPROPRIATE" (STATE 22533). THIS MISSION HAS TWICE SUBMITTED  
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ITS SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND DEFENSE  
(PARA 3, USNATO 5638 EXDIS; AND USNATO 6281 EXDIS); AND THEY HAVE  
BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED (STATE 22533 AND STATE 36625).

4. I THEREFORE REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE, ON THE SECRETARY OF

DEFENSE'S BEHALF, THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO SYG LUNS AND THE DPC  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES: IN ACCORDANCE WITH WASHINGTON  
INSTRUCTIONS:

BEGIN TEXT: MR. CHAIRMAN: DURING THE RESTRICTED SESSION OF THE  
DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN MINISTERIAL SESSION LAST DECEMBER,  
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS REVISING ITS  
PROCEDURES FOR ALERTING ITS FORCES, AND THAT I WOULD INFORM YOU OF  
THE CHANGES. I AM NOW PREPARED TO DO SO.

FOLLOWING A DECISION TO ALERT ALL OR A PORTION OF US MILITARY  
FORCES, THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE WILL INFORM ALL US DIPLOMATIC  
MISSIONS.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE MOST RAPID NOTIFICATION TO MISSIONS,  
REDUNDANT CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WILL ALSO BE USED. ALL SENIOR  
US MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES, INCLUDING DEFENSE ATTACHES, CHIEFS  
OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUPS AND OTHER SIMILAR MISSIONS,  
WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO NOTIFY THE US AMBASSADOR IMMEDIATELY UPON  
RECEIPT OF ALERT INSTRUCTIONS THROUGH THEIR OWN CHANNELS.

AMBASSADORS IN COUNTRIES WHERE THE US HAS MILITARY FORCES OR  
WITH WHICH WE HAVE BI-OR MULTI-LATERAL SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WILL  
BE SPECIFICALLY AUTHORIZED, EITHER IN THE INITIAL NOTIFICATION  
MESSAGE OR SEPARATELY, TO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS.

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WOULD LIKE MINISTERS OF DEFENSE OF ALL  
NATO COUNTRIES TO BE INFORMED IMMEDIATELY OF ANY US MILITARY ALERT.  
A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO US  
EMBASSIES AND DEFENSE ATTACHES IN ALL NATO COUNTRIES WITH THE REQUEST  
THAT IT BE RELAYED TO MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AFTER AUTHORIZATION  
BY THE AMBASSADOR.

AS FAR AS NOTIFICATION HERE AT NATO HEADQUARTERS IS CONCERNED,  
IN ADDITION TO AUTOMATIC NOTIFICATION THAT I WILL RECEIVE FROM THE  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE US MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE IN-  
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STRUCTURED TO INFORM ME IMMEDIATELY OF ANY NOTIFICATION HE RECEIVES  
OF A CHANGE IN THE DEFENSE CONDITION OF US MILITARY FORCES. I  
WILL IMMEDIATELY INFORM THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND MY COLLEAGUES  
ON THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE. THE US MILITARY REPRESENTATIVE  
WILL INFORM THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AT THE SAME TIME.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INTENDS THAT THROUGH THE USE OF  
RAPID AND REDUNDANT COMMUNICATIONS MEANS, EACH OF YOU AND THE ALLIED  
GOVERNMENTS IN THEIR CAPITALS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF ANY ALERT OF  
US FORCES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN. END TEXT RUMSFELD

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